THE CAGED TIGER.

Defence of Attorney General Fairchild's Course to "Big Six."

TOWNSEND'S POSITION ASSAILED.

How the Shrewdness of Old Ring Times Reacts on Tweed.

LEGISLATIVE CORRUPTIONISTS SAFE.

Report that Big Six Has Two Millions Funded in Europe.

John Kelly Reticent, Peckham Cautious, Townsend Silent, Tweed Ill, Dumb.

MR. BIGELOW'S VIEWS.

What the Politicians, Great and Small, Say of the Controversy.

THE "STATEMENT" MUST BE PUBLISHED.

ALBANT, June 21, 1877.

Attorney General Fairchild was found in his office this afternoon so entirely judifferent to the contents of Mr. Townsend's letter that, although the Albany Express had published a good abstract of it, he had not seen it nor learned in any way the general tenor of the document when I first saw him. He was awaiting the full report in the New York papers, and after reading these he very readily made substantially the following statement:-Nothing in the report is represented as coming from me. Except Town-send's statement of events as he sees them, the correspondence appears to have been entirely between Carolan, O'Brian, Bryant, Tweed and Townsend. There is nothing from me that I feel called upon to answer. I met Bryant on the loth of last March for the first time. He talked about Tweed, but referred chiefly to the story of his escape, which I heard then in detail for the first time, and which subsequently appeared in Harper's Weekly. He appeared to come directly from Tweed and Townsend, and from a letter, tated February 21, just preceding, which is publishe in the present statement of Townsend, he seemed to be in close relation with both. He certainly seemed to be acting for them, and certainly ha never had any authority for any of his actions from me. One of Mr. Townsend's grievances seems to be that I showed the statement of Tweed to a number of persons, especially to Mr. Peckham and Corporation Counsel Whitney; but I told him when he gave the statement to me that I must consult with others upon the master, naming Woodin investigation Committee, Townsend himself I deemed it necessary to consult, and adds Peckham, and perhaps others. I am especially disappointed he didn't publish the statement of Tweed itself as it came to me. That would have demonstrated, showing as it did all that Tweed could testify to, the impropriety of

"As law officer of the State I could say nothing relative to the Ring cases while negotiations were pending or certain proceedings were being conducted in court. A public-prosecutor must exercise the same discretion in favor of his clients, the people, as a private counsal in behalf of his client; but in such matters the public officer is at a great disadvantage, because he cannot tell his clients, the whole public, the secrets of his cause or the reasons for his action without necessarily betraying his case to the other side and running the risk of defeating the ends of justice. Many of my predecessors have been attacked as I am now; but their vindication has come in time, when the people of the State at length perceived the public good that resulted from their action. I have tried to serve the people of the State as I would any other clients. In the matters of the Ring cases I have said nothing, nor can I do so until the proper time. When that tim comes I shall speak only in a proper official report to the proper authority-Governor Robinson. Mean while I am certain that the people of the State will not expect their counsel to make premature statements, which might prejudice their interests, merely for the purpose of individual glerification or party advantage. I do not think that I should say anything more on this subject now."

WHAT THE POLITICIANS SAY. Some of the democratic politicians who congregate here, even in summer, to see if their little bilis ar signed, or to map out the plan for the fall campaign. are much exercised on the subject of the effect the treatment of the Ring cases will have on the coming elections. They are all anxious for a Legislature which will, as they put it, send a worthy colleague to sit with Kernan in the United States Senate, and inaugu-rate responsible government in the State by passing bills that Governor Robinson can sign, but they differ widely as to the Tweed controversy. Some say -- "Fairchild is making mischief by his reticent and

mysterious course in the Tweed business. Why did he not let the whole story out in the beginning and let

in reply to this general charge the friends of the Attorney General declare that his course was prudent and wise; that if he had accepted as gospel anything Iweed had to offer, without stopping to examine into its real merits, the democratic administration of the State would have been justly branded as over ready to condone the great crime of the Ring robberies, which the people will not be reasy to forget or forgive for many years to come. One of these gentlemen said to

A DEFENCE OF THE ATTORNET GRNERAL "You ask why Attorney General Fairchild was so slow in the Tweed business. Don't you know that it took Mr. O'Conor about as long to prepare for Inger soll's examination in the Ring suits. In such cases the officer of the law is always met with a quantity of strong statements of the advantages of a certain course, which, on being satted, often turn out to be advantageous only to the person prosecuted, and or importance only in the imagination of his friends taking charge of the Tweed business Mr. Fairchild had to deal with a subject with which he was not familiar. He had no previous professional or official connection with the Ring cases, and necessarily had to consult men like Charles O'Conor, Mr. Peckham and Mr. Carter, who had acted for the State in them for several years. Unless 1 am greatly mistaken he has consuited these gentlemen and others similarly employed throughout the whole matter, and, although it is possible that some one of them may have disapproved of some particular step, there is no doubt that his course has generally met with their approval. When the time came for decisive action on the Tweed papers he ceased to consult, and promptly and firmly returned them to Mr. John D. Townsend, because they had proved to be of no value

WHO BETRAYED CONFIDENCE? "But how," I asked, "do you account for the long delay and for the return of the papers not taking place until after the close of the Sweeny suit? Some people seem to consider this a sort of official trick, an abuse of the confidence of the prisoner Tweed, and a violation of the good faith under which an officer of the law is bound to receive privileged communica-

"On the contrary," was the reply, "It seems to m that it was the confidence of the Attorney General that was betrayed, and that the attempted trickery was all on the other side. Just consider the history of the affair. The so-called statement of Iweed was published in a New York paper before it was over seen by the Attorney General. He read it for the first time in the public prints. No such paper was in his possession at the time or for a considerable period thereafter. Neither Mr. John Kelly, John D. Townsend, of any other person had read the paper with the Attorney General at that time, for he had never seen it himself. On this you may rely. I believe that I know the true history of the affair. It has never yet been told, bespeak. However, now that the first act is over and there is a lull in the whole affair, there can be no harm in my stating the truth on my own responsibility.

HOW PAIRCHILD PIRST HEARD OF IT. "I happen to know that eminent and pure men of Mr. Fairchild's party-for instance, Governor Seythe whole history of the ac-called Tweed confession, nor can I give you all I do know in one conversation, but I can give you the main outlines, which are as fol-lows:—In December last Mr. Charles O'Conor received a letter foreshadowing disclosures by William M. Tweed, to be made on condition of his release. The matter first came to the knowledge of the Attorney General in February, and no action was taken on it for some time. The Attorney General had then never turned up as Tweed's counsel and friend. Mr. Fair-child's first interview with him was a very brief one, and occurred in the hall of the State House during a session of the Canal Board. Mr. Townsend said he had an important communication to make from his client, Tweed, and was told by the Attorney Gen-eral that he would consider whether any such communication should be received. Subsequently the Attorney General spoke of the matter to Mr. Wheeler B. suited in an interview of the Attorney General with Tweed in presence of Mr. Peckham. Mr. O'Conor being consulted, declined to act in the matter on account of ill health and because he had served so long in such affairs with no other reward than ingratitude and misunderstanding. A short time after this Mr. Townsend sent to Mr. Peckham a brief memorandum, stating that if released Tweed would testify to certain general facts as to legislative transaction

BRYANT APPEARS. "The next step in the affair was the coming to Albany of Carolan O'Brian Bryant, who it appears had Tweed's confidence as negotiator, from apparent inluence with Charles O'Conor. Mr. Fairchild had no previous intimacy with Bryant. At Mr. Fairchild's next visit to New York he saw Tweed; told him that, in the opinion of all good citizens, his crime against the Commonwealth was so great that his release could to the State in the way of restitution of stolen money and breaking up of corrupt 'rings' and practices, and statement of them would be considered, and if not used, returned. This, I believe, was Mr. Fairchild's

WHO SHOWED IT TO KELLY. "A month later Townsend brought the so-called state ment to Albany. After some consideration it was re-terred to Mr. W. H. Peckbam and Mr. Whitney was consulted. I don't think that it was at first considered of much account by the lawyers, but the Woodin investigation and the dragging in of Mr. John Kelly's name in connection with the publication gave it public inportance. Mr. Kelly certainly did not get the document from the Attorney General, and examination of his statements in the matter will show that he never said so. There seems no doubt that Mr. Fairchild did statement, as undoubtedly, in my opinion, it was proper for the Attorney General to speak to the chief inancial officer of New York in a matter concerning the receiving of a large sum of money for the city.

WHY IT WAS DELAYED. "The so-called statement was sent down to New York to Mr. Peckham not very long after its receipt. About the end of May Mr. Peckham went West, and meeting the Attorney General at the depot at Albany, agreed, at his request, to return the statement to Albany; but, during Mr. Peckham's absence the Attorney General was called away, and never received the paper back until about the date of its return, through Mr. Peck.

so connection with sweent.
"Well," I said, "supposing all you say about Twead's
statement to be true, what was its connection with the

Sweeny settlement"
"Why, it hadn't any connection with the Sweeny settlement at all. Not a line, word or suggestion of it was in any respect used in that case. When Mr. Townsend publishes the precious document it will be time enough to consider what it didn't say about Sweeny that Waido Hutchins, who used, you remember, to run a section of the Fenton machine, was in some way stand that on the receipt of Sweeny's application for thirty days' immunity in case he came home to stand return certain moneys paid to James M. Sweeny could never be traced to Peter B., and in the general hope of completing the whole 'Ring' history which had been attached, might if well managed and the title had been clear have netted the city of New York \$250,000 at the outside. But, considering the taint on the title, which even if only sentimental have damaged the price, and taking into account the necessary expenses, it certainly would not have notted the city over \$100,000 at a forced sale. The only definite offer 1 ever heard of being made before the trial was the surrender of the property attached and \$50,000 cash. The acceptance of \$400,000 was only resolved on during the trial. It don't bar criminal prosocutions, and for that matter civil ones either for affairs not directly connected with the Board

PUBLICATION CALLED FOR. "Well, for your story so far, I can only say, Si non ? ero é ben'trocato; but how do you answer the statements publicly made that the Autorney General re turned the Tweed story because its publication would

fatally damage so many prominent demograts?" "Oh, stuff; don't you see that if Fairchild had wanted to save any one, he would have kept the statement, released Tweed, and used all of his papers he pleased to use against whomever he desired to cute. By returning the statement he offends Tweed makes it Tweed's and Townsond's intorest to hurt him and his friends all they can. The great American people are very gullible if they believe any one wants to protect his friends by turning the evidence against them over to his worst enemies. I think Fairchild wants the whole statement published just as soon as Townsend pleases and is only apprehensive that a par-tial publication may lead the public to think there is

THE WOODIN INVESTIGATION

"You toll a straight enough story, but what have you to say about the Woodin investigation, originating as it did directly from the charges of the statement? "Well, I don't see how that concerns any democrat send's revelation in the World. He jumped up in the Senate and said he wasn't guilty and got to do with the matter, as they didn't publish the statement. Some people think that it might have self in the attitude of accusing himself by being so prompt to excuse himself against so unsupported and unreliable an accusation

OF NO LEGAL VALUE.

"There is one point not yet clear to my mind, even on your theory, and no one has yet explained it, to my knowledge. It is this-if there was really nothing in of sufficient importance to secure Tweed's release, wh gid Mr. Fairchild ever consider them at all?"

"Simply because he could not know what was in them unth after full examination of their legal bearings, and because the Attorney General could not, under his official oath, refuse the fullest consideration to any thing seemingly authenticated in an affair of such importance. Besides all this, there are very few people who seem to know that by a law of 1875 the limitations of the statute as to official bribery are extended to ton years. The chief hope of the Atterney General was that by use of this statute, which gave power to attach and hold any property derived from fraudulent practices against the State, he might recover the illgotton wealth of the officials and lobbyists who had grown rich out of corruption during the Tweed rigime. It was only by minute investigation, growing out of the so-called Tweed disclosures, that the Attorney General discovered that there was great

SHREWD CORRUPTIONISTS. "Somebody in the Ring was very cunning, and devised a method of corruption designed to defeat the operation of the law in this exact particular. The Ring did not pay lobbyists or corrupt legislators with any money directly received from Koyser or other new Court House people. Their plan was to raise the legislative corruption fund by discount of everywhere, especially in the many testitutions which owed their being or presperity to Ring favors. The banks in New York who would have refused to discount William M. Tweed's note at that time might the percentages in carpeting or plastering, but with at the next meeting of the Board of Audit the thing was fixed, and each ringster got his reim bursoment in time to meet the note, royal interest. Now, the trouble was that property purchased with money corruptly obtained from the State or from municipalities. None of the lobbyists or of the legislators supposed or alleged to be affiliated with the Ring-as, for instance, Abraham Van Vechten, A. D. Barber, or Senator Wood, or Senator Graham—had any property which strictly came under this law, because it was not purchased with moneys derived from the State, but simply with individual loans. This was Mr. Fairchild's first diffitions there was very little of value under any circumstances in them, whether this difficulty was obviated or not. In this way the Attorney General was defeated in his pet project of breaking up the lobby system at Albany by depriving the leading Ring lobbyists of the fortunes they had corruptly acquired. Perhaps after long litigation his object might have been accomplished, but ender the indefinite Tweed statements there was no certainty of any speedy return for the outlay in such soils." of any speedy return for the outlay in such soils." TWEED'S CONTRADICTIONS.

Subsequent to the above interviews I talked with a gentleman conversant with the politics of the State

old Ring suits and his story as represented in the published abstract of his proposed testimony on release. In the so-called statement Tweed states that he has accounts and lists showing the details of the sums corruptly paid to influence legislation, and gives statements referring to the particulars o those transactions. Now, if you will turn to the Sen-Nos. 34 to 55, of 1872, you will find that in the Wood investigation Tweed's sworn testimony was in direct diction of all he now says. I have the book here, but it would take too much time to quote it exfrom page 54, when, Tweed being on the stand, Senato Ames asks, and Tweed answers as follows :-

Amos seks, and I weed answers as follows:—

By Senator Arks—Q. Of course we all know that there are a world of rumors in regard to the action of those whom you influenced, and with reference to the legislation of the last three or four years at Albany. It has been stated that there was an account kept by you, or by some one cise, and that you kept a copy of the account, or knew all about it, and of the moneys that had been expended to secure legislation at Albany, as paid to various individuals. Now, I wish to ask you whether any such account exists or ever had any existence? d any existence ? William M. Tweed- Not that I know of.

"Now, is it possible," continued the gentleman, "to find a more direct contradiction than that between this sworn statement and the assertions of the socalled Tweed statement as given to the public? De you remember the Tweed affidavit in the Poley case, before Judge Barrett, in 1871? If you will hunt it up you will find even a more explicit sworn disclaimer on Tweed's part of any knowledge of any bribery or cor-ruption in the State Legislature. Now, I have never spoken to the Attorney General about any of these matters, but I don't see how he could take the loose memoranda which were furnished him by Townsend as conclusive against Tweed's repeated sworn statements, as sufficient cause for letting him out of jail in mere expectation that he would divulge something. Sup-posing Tweed, if released, chose to confirm his previ-ous caths, where would the State be then? Of course if ne, on the other hand, should now swear in direct contradiction of his previous testimony what jury would believe him? His present testimony would be supposed by every one to be less trustworthy than his previous evidence, because given as condition precedent to his release. If the Attorney General had let Tweed out on such statements as have been made to him he would have been execrated as condoning the Ring frauds without any benefit to the State.

TWEED AND HIS PRIENDS. "I don't understand John D. Townsend's share in the affair. I have neard instances of his ringing into cases, and don't see why he should have Tweed's confidence now or take the trouble he has unless he hoped to get some round percentage of a settlement. There is a story that there was a plan to make the indorsers the proceeds, less a certain percentage, to be paid over to the State. This would be simply infamous blackmailing, and any law officer who would consent to be party to such a scheme should be sent to State Prison. I don't see his release is the first duty of the State. He confesses too much by his own showing to be entitled to don't think that Townsend and Bryant are the men best qualified to secure it for him. There is one point I may have omitted. Townsend testified in the Woodin case that Fairchild had promised to consult only his father and Mr. Tilden in the Tweed matter. If you will look at the testimony in the Woodin case, you will see that, according to Townsond, under oath, the only agreement was that the Attorney General would consult such advisers and counsel as might be expedient. This turnishes a direct contradiction between the recent outgivings of those who clamor now for Tweed's release and the sworn statements of his coupsel?

CITY-VIEWS OF PUBLIC FUNCTIONARIES, POLITICAL MAGNATES AND INTERESTED PAR-TIES-THE BAILWAY AND INSURANCE ACCUSA-

to Attorney General Fairchild caused considerable excitement among the politicians of the city. the only topic of conversation at the various places where local statesmen congregate, and the views of porters of the HERALD and will be found below There is a diversity of opinion as to wnether Fairchild is as blamable as Mr. Town send sets forth, but there is a unanimou sontiment that an answer from the Attorney General is imperative, and cannot be withheld by him without ruining him politically and professionally. Many politicians withhold any decided opinion as to the controversy until Mr. Fairchild is heard from. Those who ought to be well informed, like Comptroller Kelly, are confident that in the near future there will be some developments that will be a set-off to the excitem about Mr. Townsend's letter. Senator John Mor rissey advises the publication of Tweed's statement, and thinks it cannot be withheld much longer. Secretary of State Bigelow defends the Attorney General from a fulness of knowledge as to the negotiations for Tweed's release that gives what he says pe culiar significance. Mr. Bigelow is of the opinion that the course adopted by Mr. Fairchild has been consist ent with a strict sense of his personal honor and also to his credit as the chief law officer of the State. Mr. Bigelow is, however, waiting with the general public for the Attorney General's reply before coming to a final decision as to the actual merits of the controversy. The real condition of public opinion as it man itested itself yesterday was the Micawber condition of waiting for something to turn up.

NOTHING FURTHER AT PRESENT.

Mr. John D. Townsend said that there was nothing now to be told in reference to his letter to Attorney

inued, "Mr. Townsend, as Tweed's counsel, is hardy a competent judge."

In regard to the reasons which the Attorney General may have had for the action be has taken. Mr. Peckham said that it was for the Attorney General to state these when he thought fit.

"But," he continued, "I never is any way heard of any intimation on his part that he wished any of the contession suppressed or had any objection to its being published. I am quite sure that if Mr. Townsend or Tweed wish to publish it the Attorney General would have no objection."

Mr. John Kelly stated yesterday to a HERALD reporter that in the present condition of the controversy he did not intend to say anything as to the merits of the difference between the Attorney General and Mr. Townsend. He was quite certain that the matter would not rest where it was and that very important developments would be the immodiate result of the publication of the letter of Mr. Townsend. The Comptroller intensited that in a day or two he might be more communicative.

during and since the Tweed régime. He said:

'It is marvellous to me how the opponents of
Tweed's release have overlooked the glaring

The publication yesterday of Mr. Townsend's letter

points were attempted to be made. One was that the Attorney General promised to release Tweed, and in

"I know that the Attorney General claims and has told me that he never made any such promise. I never knew of any such promise."
"The second point," said Mr. Peckham, "was that the prosecution ought to have accepted Tweed's confession and released Tweed; but as to that," he continued, "Mr. Townsend, as Tweed's counsel, is hardly a commetent judge."

ments would be the immodiate result of the publication of the letter of Mr. Townsend. The Compiroller intimated that in a day or two he might be more communicative.

***SECINGARY SIGRLOW ON THE ELETTER.**

Secretary of State John Bigelow, who was at the Westminster Hotel yesterday, and left last night for Albany, gave to a Graphic resporter yesterday morning a careful statement embodying his views of the Townsend-Fairchild controvery. Its points are as follows:—

****WHAT MR. BIGELOW ANYS.**

Mr. Fairchild was encouraged to believe, and supposed from Iweed's lotter to Charles O'Conor, that he was ready to give up his property and disclose evidence of sufficient public importance to justify his discharge. The kind of evidence which would answer that description in the case would have occurs such as would have reached men who had committed greater crimes than Iweed had or would have secured the conviction of a large number of parsons who had committed as great crimes as he had. Tweed's agents anthorized the expectation that he would have formshed evidence that would have convicted soveral State Schators of making merchandise of their votes and initiacuce, besides a large number of officials of lesser rank. They also encouraged Mr. Fairchild to expect that Mr. Tweed would surrender all his property and would leave the prison a poor man, and one incapacitated, so far as money and property would go, to offend public deceacy by way of display which would throw doubts upon the completeness of the satisfaction which he had rendered the State. In pursuance of this promise Tweed sent to Attorney General Fairchild as statement to Attorney General Fairchild as statement of the many of the completeness of the satisfaction which he had rendered the would have seen indicate the means of eatablishing a case, upon which any person could be convicted. He so stated to Mr. Iweed's agent promises to supplement this statement of did not furnish a case, nor even indicate the means of catablishing a case, upon which any statement of t

circumstance.

While this paper was in the crucible undergoing these professional tests information reached the Attorney General which, in my judgment, justifies the belief that Tweed has in Europe to his credit a very large sum of money. The amount is reported to me to be \$2,000,000, and that Tweed was only waiting to secure his discharge to reight his confederates now in large sum of money. The amount is reported to me to be \$2,000,000, and that Tweed was only waiting to secure his discharge to rejoin his confederates now in Europe to embark with them in a large streetway speculation in Madrid. I know nothing, of course, of the truth of this story, but it comes to me from a source entitled to as much respect, at least, as anything which Mr. Townsend can state ou that or any other subject. But, whether true or false, it was in such entire conformity with tweed escaped from Ludlow Street Jail to the present hour that in my judgment it justiles the caution and circumspection in the final decision manifested by the Attorney General. Any other course, under the circumstances, when they became known—would have been tatal to his character as a police officer.

Tweed, restored to freedom and rolling in affluence, his movements and operations telegraphed from one end of the world to the other—what a commentary it would present upon the administration of justice in New York, and especially upon the character of its legal advisors!

Mr. Bigelow then explained the necessity Mr. Fair-child had for delay. He continued:

WILLY THE ATTACK NEADS.

There is not a man in Sing Sing to-day, I presume,

There is not a man in Sing Sing to-day, I presume, who could not make an equally plausible, an equally pittable and more truthful statement of his grievances than anything which Tweed or his counsel are likely to assign against the conduct or decision of Mr. Fairchild. The fact is, I weed's party is a very large one. It permeates to some extent both of the great political parties of this State. But a small proportion probably of those who have been compromised by their associations with Tweed are yet in the pillory. All these are interested in his release. An important election is approaching. They are important alhes in any faction of any party that is not scrupulous about the means to its ends. This attempt—this war upon Mr. Fairchild—is simply a recrudescence of the war in which Tweed was the captain, Fisk, Gookl, Barnard, Connoily, Sweeny, Hall and others were staff officers. They find the moment anspicious. No great political issue bines the parties soicly together, and having discovered that they can neither cajole hor frighten the present Attorney General, they are preparing with a long arm to accure it possible a successor in that office who will not be so nice and impracticable in his dealings with public criminals.

That is all there is to this war upon Mr. Fairchild.

not be so nice and Impracticable in his dealings with public criminals.

That is all there is to this war upon Mr. Fairchild. It is a question whether the elements of good or of cyil in our society are to dominate. Whether our statesmanship is to receive its inspiration from the inside or from the outside of our prisons.

Sinator Morrissey's MODERATE VIEW.

A reporter of the Herand met Mr. John Morrissey in the yestibute of the Astor House vesterias. In resign

A reporter of the Herian met Mr. John Morrissey in the vestibule of the Astor indiac yesterday. In reply to an inquiry he said that he did not desire to say very much about Mr. Fownsend's letter. He thought the matter might all be summed up as "a lawyer's quarrel brought about by political intrigue." He thought it was too soon to say that Attorney General Fairchild could not have a satisfactory answer to the charges made by Mr. Fewnsend It ought not to be longotten that Mr. Fairchild had told the Woodin Investigating Committee that Tweed's statement uncorrosorated was worthless in a legal point of view, and that I weed had failed to furnish the requisite corroboration. Mr. Townsend made a mistake in showing Tweed's statement to John Kelly before sending it to the Attorney General, and the latter had also lost a good opportunity in not returning the statement at once to Townsend when he loand that Kelly had violated the confidence that had been reposed in him. Mistakes had been made on both sides He was afroid when he found that Kelly had violated the confidence that had been reposed in him. Instakes had been made on both sides. He was afraid there was no honest endeavor to use Tweed for the benefit of the city, and that all that was done by any-body who was in possession of Tweed's secrets was to use them for the promotion of their own selfish political designs. He folt certain that the mai base of this quarrel would be the publication of Tweed's statement in its entirety, and it would perhaps be better for Tweed to do it than anybody eyes.

this quarrel would be the publication of Iweed's statement in its entirety, and it would perhaps be better for Tweed to do it than anybody ease.

MR. Thurlow Weed was found late yesterday in the library of his home in West Twelth street. Mr. Weed said he had not had time to read Mr. Townsend's letter to the Attorney General, but he did not think that its perusal would in any way alter or affect his present opinion of Mr. Fairchild's conduct. Mr. Weed says he has thought for some time that Mr. Fairchild had acted in an equivocal not to say dishonorable way toward Mr. Iweed. Not having road the details of the negotiations he said he did not feel institude in expressing an opion at length. His opinion of Mr. Fairchild's conduct, he said, was the result of what he had read before Mr. Townsend's statement was made public. It seemed to Mr. Weed, and his opinion was shared by many with whom he had spoken, that Mr. Fairchild had some prasonal on to serve in not coming earlier to some conclusion in reference to Mr. Tweod's proposition. An explanation of his conduct might be made, but whether it would prove satisfactory to the desinterested public as a question.

MR. W. H. YANDERRILE'S OFNION.

it would prove satisfactory to the disinterested public is a question.

MR. W. R. VANDREBILT'S OPINION.

"The classification set of 1808," said Mr. William H. Vanderbilt to a HERALD reporter, "of the Eric Ratical was well known as an injustoos measure, and resulted in the retention of James Fisk, Jr., and Jay Gould as directors, and made William M. Pweed and Peter B. Sweeny concerned in the management of Eric. I have noshing to say as to the attack of Mr. John D. Townsend on Attorney General Fairchild in connection with these matters, because I know nothing of the merits of the case. The New York Central has always managed its business in a manner that seemed proper, honest and judicious; has never sought to influenceslegislation, and we dely anybody to point to any acts of the corporation that should invite cruicism or objection. There was a period in the ligetime of my father when diverse influences were a: work to divert trade, treffic and capital from the Central, but I believe that it was only by legitimate means and new to be told in reference to his letter to Attorney
General Fairchild, and that nothing could be said until
Mr. Fairchild had been heard from. When it was
ascertained what Mr. Fairchild was or was not
going to do about it, then, perhaps, there might be
something to say to the press. A visit to Luclow
Street Jail to see the famous captive was equally
unpreductive of results. Mr. Tweed sent word that by
the advice of his counsel he could see no one.
No promise Made to twee.
Mr. Wheeler H. Peckham said that he had nothing
new to communicate relative to the care itself, but that
as far as he could see in Mr. Townsend's letter two

demned. By its provisions men could be retained in office who were neither acceptable to the domestic or foreign stockholders, and it is safe to say that it was this act that first organized the English opposition to the management of the road that ultimately resulted in the dismemberment of the direction. With the charges of Mr. Townsend, therefore, as to what was done to influence legislation in favor of our company we have nothing to do; and as far as noticing any vague charges of improper influences having been used by persons connected with this company we shall have nothing to say until they shall be made specific, and their gravity shall merit our denial or investigation."

Mr. Channoey M. Depew, the connecter of the Central road, was sought, and the following conversation ensued:

REPORTER—Mr. Depew, what is your understanding of the present deficulty between Mr. Townsend and Mr. Pairchiid?

Mr. Depew—It is a very pretty quarrel as it stands.

of the present difficulty between Mr. Townsend and Mr. Fairchild?

Mr. Depew—it is a very pretty quarrel as it atands. Reporter.—How do the charges affect the Central Railroad Company?

Mr. Depew—there are no specifications. Mr. Townsend mentions no names; he does not even give dates; and although his general statements are damaging to Mr. Fairchild these will not be accepted by the public as conclusive evidence of fraud or collision.

Reporter.—Do you consider the charge of insincerity well founded? Mr. Fairchild agreed, it seems, not to show the evidence admitted to anybody, yet he seems to have had private pounset to guide him.

Mr. Derew—Well, I suppose a sou may go to a father for advice, and Mr. Sydney Fairchild is one of the abiest lawyers in the State of New York, and the son inherits the fighting qualities of his father.

REPORTER—How about Mr. Tilden?

Mr. Derew (with a smile child-like and bland)—That does neem queer, doesn't Mr. (Gross-examining the reporter.) How do you account for the fact that the World newspaper is aniagonizing Mr. Fairchild while supporting Mr. Udden?

Reporter (wary)—Ah-h-h-h.

The Bakis RALLWAY AND THE RING.

Mr. Jeweti was not in his office when the reporter

Beroster (wery)—Ahb-h-h.

Reforter (wery)—Ahb-h-h.

The sais existency and the reporter called yeaterday, but a prominent officer of the company stated that the Classification act was by no means original with that company, but had previously been adopted by Western and Pennsylvania railroad companies to prevent mischievous legislation, or that in which stockholders belding a smult smount of stock should embarrass the operations of great corporation by processes tedious and tending to the deterioration and destruction of the property. The St. Paul Entiredy Company, Rock Island, Pennsylvania and other corporations had availed themselves of local laws for the purpose of preventing damaging dalays of certain improvements and also to estop reckless speculators in Wall street from making combinations to manage elections. Therefore the sign in Mr. Itownsend's letter of the classification haw of 1868 having been engineered by the Eric Company, was like, especially so far as the company as now constituted was concerned, but of course the gentleman speaking could not say how far the old managors had availed themselves of technicalities to further their own interests and keep themselves in power.

Mr. William it, Grace, of No. 66 Pine stroet, was waited on by a reporter in order that some demail or confirmation of the classination in regard to an insurance ring should be denied or confirmed. Mr. Grace was in consultation with his lawyers, Messrs Coudert Brothers, in Wall street, and it was secretained that Mr. John P. O'Nell was in quite possession of the offices of the Goutinental Life Insurance Company. It was the wish of Mr. Grace that notting should be said either to confirm or deny the allimation of Mr. Townsend. It must be added, however, that the rumors of an insurance ring, with political and pecuniary objects, were heard on many sides. It was described as even tainting the judiciary.

Aldernance and the secretains and the control of the c

were heard on many sides. It was described as even tainting the judiciary.

ALDERWANIC COMMENTS.

The majority of the Board of Alfermen are evidently not a reading class. When button-holed to ascertain their opinious relative to the statements set down in the Townsend letter as to Attorney General Fairchild's connection with the Tweed case, nearly all of them replied that they did not have an opportunity of digesting the ponderous document.

ing the ponderous document.

"I have been running around the departments nearly all day," said Alderman Sniels, "and I did not have a moment to spare. I merely glanced at the leading points of the communication. From the few sentences I did notice, it looks like a very ugly acrape for Fairchild."

child."
Alderman Tuomey said:—"From what I have seen of Mr. Townsend's letter I think he has given the Attorney General a tremendous overhunding."
Alderman Guntzma—That was a very long letter—six mortal columns. I will try and get through with reading it to-night.
Alderman SLEVIN—Tweed seems to have an able defender in John D. Townsend. The letter is written with vigor and puts Mr. Fairchild in a very unenviable light.

with vigor and puts Mr. Fairentid in a very unenviable light.

Alderman Morris was of the opinion that it was a personal fight between Town-end and Fairentid. "The former has evidently got the best of the light, and the Attorney General will have a difficult time to explain his position."

The general tenor of remarks among the other Aldermen was strongly in sympathy with Townsend's side of the controversy. One of them said that it seemed the purpose of the Attorney General to worry Tweed to death, as dead men can tell no tales. Two of them objected to saying anything on the subject. Ring matters seem to be a delicate matter for some of the Aldermen to touch upon.

THE LITTLE JONER.

Carolan O'B. ETYART, who has been under every thimble in this little game says he is preparing a statement that will surprise many people.

A SHOCKING CRIME.

DIABOLICAL ASSAULT ON A MARRIED WOMAN IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY. Intense excitement prevailed among the people liv.

ing in the northern portion of Westchester county yesterday, owing to a horrible outrage perpetrated on the person of a young married woman during the previous evening. At a secluded place Witson's Corners, in the town Ossining, and situated about two miles west of the Harlem Railroad station at Picasantville, Charles Brundage, an industrious farm laborer, lives with his tage is some distance from any public thoroughfare, and the nearest neighbor almost a quarter of a mile away. After returning home from his daily toil on Tuesday Brundage set out for Picasantville, with the object of purchasing some groceries, that being the nearest place where he could obtain them. This was about seven P. M. He had not been gone longer than iffseen or twenty minutes, when two strangers, who had evidently watched him going away, called at the house and asked for some food. Mrs. Brundage—who is a delicate looking person, twenty-two years old, of slight form—promptly shared her little store with the mendicants, who partook of it outside on the stoop. After cating they opened the door, and, uninvited, entered the house. One of the wretches then approached Mrs. Brundage and roughly senzed her arm. The poor woman, who was in the act of arranging some needlework, aimed a blow at the fellow with the scissors which she held in her hand, striking him, she thinks, in the face, as he uttered the exciamation, "My God?" Both of the miscreants then tied her arms behind her, and taking a rouber ball covered with yar from one of the chidren they forced it into the poor woman's mouth, thus effectually rendering her unable to make the slightest noise. She immediately fainted, and while in this condition the vilains criminally assaulted her and finally left the house. When their victum regarded consciousness her hands were still tied and the ball falling her mouth. In this state she made her way to the house of a neighbor, but sank down in another fainting fit when she attempted to open the gate. Assistance specifily arrived, her hands were loosed, and tho ball was taken out of her mouth. The neighborhood was at once aroused, and armed hands of men and boys started off in all directions to hunt down the two ruflians. All the evening and during the night the search was kept up, but without avait. Yesterday morning information of the outage was conveyed to Sing Sing, when Justice Hyatt at once instruced the police lorce of that village to arrest every tramp they could find. Accordingly about twenty were spirehended and locked up Later in the day, however, when Mrs. Tuesday Brundage set out for Picasantville, with the object of purchasing some groceries,

CORONERS' CASES Charles Marmont, who pushed John Eigier, a va-

grant, away from some lager beer kegs he was draining in front of the Union Hotel, causing the latter to fail upon the sidewalk and cut a varicose vein in his leg, from the hemorrhage following which he soon after died, was held in \$590 ball yesterday to await the action of the Grand Jury. At an inquest in the Core "Eigler came to his death from hemorrhage of a vari-cose ulcer of the leg, which might have been acceler-ated by a fall, the result of a push at the hands of Charles Marmont." ated by a fall, the result of a push at the hands of Charles Marmont."

Officer George S. Chapman, of the Twenty-first precinct, was fully exonerated by Coroner Woltman's investigation of Patrick Gill's case yesterday. Gill was injured by being knocked down by a horse stached to a Twenty-third street car and run over by a First avenue car, near Thirtieth street, June 19, 1877.

Lizzie McCann, who was shot by a boy named Frank N. Glover, of No. 181 West Thirty-fifth street, died yesterday at the New York Hospital. It was proved that the shooting was accidental, but the boy was held to await the result of the Coroner's inquest, which wall be held to-day.

HOBOKEN TURTLE CLUB.

FEAST OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF LOVELS OF TURTLE SOUP-"AS WE JOURNEY TREOUGH

LIFE LET US LIVE BY THE WAY." Nothing could exceed the brilliancy of the entertainment given yesterday by the Hoboken Turtle Club at their new grounds in the grove on Jerome avenue, near Macomb's Dam Bridge. It was really and truly a "feast of reason and flow of soul," and carried out perfectly the motto of the ciub, "As we journey through life let us live by the way," which reaembles the Latin motte, "Dum cicimus cicamus."

The grounds were in splendid order, the day was all that could be desired, and everything in the shape of nature and art combined lent their enchantments to make this the grand gale day of a ciub which traces

its origin backward nearly a bundred years.

The breakfast in the morning was superb and the turtle steaks all that the painte of the most fastidious

alderman could des re. In the afternoon vehicles of all descriptions commenced to arrive, and, filing in at the grand entrance to the grounds, took up positions under the shade of overhanging trees, while Wallace's band discoursed awest strains to the surging crowd and to the guests that had promenaded ad libitum with the view of getting up an appetite for the many good things to come. At half-pas-four the dinner belt, that "toosin of the soul," sounded a charge which surpassed that of the histori light cavalry brigade at Baiaclava, and members with their guests, together amounting to about four hun-

their guests, together amounting to about four hundred persons, sat down to such a feast as might have regaled the palate of Epicarus.

A lew words with respect to the history of this club may be appropriate. It was organized in 1798. But two of the originators are now living. They, of course, are chiefs in the "old gang" and look upon many of the present members as the "new gang," though most of the latter have passed that stage where the folly of life is no longer a novety.

The officers are:—Mr. A. L. Ashman, president; Mr. Henry S. Goodspeed, first vice president; Messra. Samuel H. Everett and William H. Linge, socond vice presidents; Mr. George B. Dean, Jr., secretary; Mr. John J. Levy, treasurer; Mr. T. C. Dun, caterer.

Beside keeping up its organization since 1706, the club is the parent of three others—namely, the Turtle Club, of Kings county; Manhattan and Klmra. The dining room is handsomely fitted up, and the club monogram is displayed very prominently on the furniture, and the walls and the head of the room are ornamented with the shell of a turtle killed and eaten forty years ago.

The club owns more than \$1,000 worth of silver

mented with the shell of a turtle killed and eaten forty years ago.

The club owns more than \$1,000 worth of silver plate and is a solvent institution entirely out of dobt, with many wealthy and highly respectable members on its roll.

Among the prominent men of the city at the dinner yesterday were:—Senator Wagstaff, Judge Morgan, Captain Mortimer, Mr. Gumbieton, Sheridan Shook, Frank McCabe and Colonel Dam, also a member of filty years' standing, who is now on the list of honorary members.

Turtle Sour, Sentiment and Song.

dity years' standing, who is now on the list of honorary members.

TURTLE SOUP, SENTIMENT AND SONG.

Mr. Ashman, the President, in a happy speech, said that the Heboken Turtle Club was organized aightyone years ago when a few residents of Manhattan folly jovial oid fellows passed over to Hoboken to have a good time and initiated the very club of which he was now the president. He said but two members of the original association were now living. He remarked upon what green turtle as a tood could do, and as it was the custom of the citch he now sent a vegetable bouquet to Mr. Sheppard Kanpp as the best turtle soup eater present. The health of Mr. Goodspeed was drunk, and responded to by that gentleman in an eloquent and humorous speech which brought down cheers from all sides. He aituded in a feeling manner to the death of a former esteemed officer, Mr. Miller, whose death in so short a time was also followed by that of Judge White. He spoke of the many old members who had passed away and the old fremen who prided themselves on their membership of this organization.

At the close of Mr. Goodspeed's speech, a quartet club, consisting of Mr. D. Baron, Mr. Arthur Cook, Mr. H. E. Humpbries and J. Brown sang "To the Bravest," and Mr. Arthur Cook, in splendid voice, gave "The Rose of Killarney"—

gave "The Rose of Killarney"—

O promise to meet me when twilight is falling Each bird in the mendow your name will be calling. Beside the bright water that simulects so fair, And every sweet resound will welcome you there.

After Judge Morgan had made a few remarks he suddenly plusted, because he said he wanted to hear from Sheridan Shook, who, being presented with a magnificant bouquet, made a few happy remarks. Mr. Samuel Everett being called upon made a few remarks, describing the club as his "pet organization."

Mr. Black, boing introduced by Mr. Ashman, gave the "Arkansas Traveller," with variations, which produced peaks of languiter, and the dinner ended with music and the song of "Sweet By and Bye," song by Mr. H. R. Humphries. As the guests prepared to return to the city one and all concluded with the silent prayer, "May I be there to see at the next meeting of the Roboken Turtle Ciub."

NAVAL ACADEMY.

HOW SOME OF THE CADETS WERE ABLE TO PASS-EXAMINATION QUESTIONS STOLEN AND SCATTERED AMONG THE UNCERTAIN ONES-DISCOVERY AND SUSPENSION OF THE GUILTY PARTIES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

Annapolis, June 21, 1877.
It has transpired that during the early part of the Naval Academy examinations Cadets Thomas L. Bonnis, of Missouri; A. R. Hasson, of Oregon, and A. C. Haines, of the District of Columbia, by false keys en tered the premises of Professor Hendrickson, head o

the examination questions in mathematics. More-over, during two nights, by these keys they helped themselves, udasked, to the Professor's wine. GIVEN TO HIGH PHINDS.

The questions were generously given to their fellows who were likely to "bilge" and those in turn bestowed them upon their iriends. The result was, the prob-lems became so widely circulated that the theft came out.

TURNED STATE'S EVIDENCE.

ERSIGNED.
Cadet Midshipman W. J. Maxwell, of the District of Columbia, has resigned. EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES.

Washington, June 21, 1877.
The examination of candidates for appointment as

cadet midshipmen in the navy was commenced to-day. About seventy-five persons reported for examination which will close about the 30th inst. NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE HARTFORD AT NORPOLK.

NORPOLE, Va., June 21, 1877. The United States flagship Hartford arrived here to-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PREPARATION FOR EXPLORATION IN WIND BIVER MOUNTAIN DISTRICT. BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HEBALD. CAMP STANKAUGH, Wy. T., June 21, 1877. The primary triangulation division of the United States Geological Survey, in charge of Mr. A. D. Wil-

son, arrived here to-day to meet supplies of provisious. The party consists of Mr. Wilson, Err Ingersoll, William Shippen and laboring men, all of whom are well. They leave here to-morrow for explo-ration in the Wind litter Mountains and northwestward. The eastern division, under Mr. G. B. Chitten den, with whom are Dr. F. M. Endlich, Mr. Clymet and Mr. House, passed through here a few days ago, well and prosperous. The weather is invorable and the work of both parties is progressing satisfactorily.

A MYSTERY CLEARING UP.

FINDING THE BODY OF AN ABDUCTED WOMAN-EVIDENCE OF MURDER. Lowell, Mass., June 21, 1877.

The body of Mary Ella Harrington, who was abducted from East Beston nearly a year sgo, was discovered last night in the Merrimack River, about an miles from

this city. The body was bound with ropes into the smallest possible compass, sewed in a sack and weighted down.

Albert Write has been arrested as an accessory to the marder of Miss Harrington. J. A. Favor is now held as principal, and several others who are supposed to have known of the marder will be arrested. The case against Favor is very strong.

PARCELS ON THE STREET CARS

A motion was carried at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Akiermen to recommis the report of a com-mittee making it unlawful to "allow within or upon four-fifths of all the railroad cars and omnibuses upon each and every of the street railroad and om lines of this city elsewhere than upon the front plat-lorm and top of same, any bundle, baskets of spind or other materials, bedelethes, parcels of merchandise, baggage, pants, oils, groceries, or any substance whatever.

whatever.

It is probable that a different ordinance will be reported back open this subject. Alderman Morris has netroduced a substitute to the above which relates only to the carrying of "soiled clothing or acited bed clothes, paints and oils or other greasy materials."

This ordinance makes it a penalty to transport such goods except on the front platform or top of the cars or omnibuses.